

HB5521

Dear Senator Gerratana, Representative Ritter and Members of the Public Health Committee:

As a Licensed Psychologist in Connecticut for many years, I am writing in strong opposition to HB 5521, for the following 4 reasons:

- 1) The term “psychologist” reflects doctoral level providers (both in Connecticut and on a national level);
- 2) Allowing licensure of master’s level psychologists would create public confusion regarding provider education and training; and,
- 3) Master’s level clinicians are currently able to become licensed in Connecticut as “Licensed Professional Counselors” (LPC’s).
- 4) This bill does not impact school psychologists, as they are under the authority of the Department of Education.

For each of these reasons, I am urging you to oppose HB 5521. In particular, I want to stress that a one or two year counseling program simply does not provide the kinds of competencies and skills of a doctoral level training program. It would be foolish and shortsighted to blur the distinction between these two levels of training.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

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